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Philosophical Transactions . n . 213 . Fig: J. Fi4:2. Fi4:3.

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I. An Extract of a Letter from Monsieur Anthony Van Leuwenhock to the Royal Society, containing the History of the Generation of an Insect, by him called, The Wolf. With Observations on Insects bred in Rain-Water, in Apples, Cheese, &c.

HE Wolf is a small white Worm armed with two red Sheers or Teeth at the fore-part of its Head, wherewith it bores and feeds on the Grains of

Corn, and makes its way through Wood it felf.

Having formerly often inclosed some of these Worms with some Wheat in small Glass Tubes (which I carried in my Pocket in the Winter) I always found that they dyed before the time of Generation: Wherefore in the Summer I put some of them with the Wheat whereon they fed in a Box, and observed that one of them joyned fix or eight Grains together, lodging it felf in one of them, the rest being likewise all hollow and eat out. The Worm spins a Thread, wherewith it joyns the Corn together, and fastens it self to Glass or other smooth Bodies. When I put them in Boxes, they eat their way out; and when I put them in Glass Tubes, they bored through the Corks that stopt the Glass Tubes; to prevent which, I covered the Cork with Sealing-wax, and to give them Air, put a very small Glass Cane thro' the Wax and Cork. Fig. 1. ABCD is the Tube stopt with Wax and Cork, EG and FH two small Pipes passing through the Cork and Wax. The Beams of the Granaries likewise are all eaten, for they leave the Corn, and creep up the Walls to the Timbers of the Ceiling, where they fasten themselves and remain till their Change.

The

The Worms in my Glass Tube, which was about a Foot long, and a Finger wide, fastened themselves to the sides of the Glass, and lay still all the Winter; the Web that covered them was to thin, that I could with my Microscope perceive a small motion of their Heads through it.

On the 29th, of April following they began to look red, and somewhat shorter than before; on the 30th.

they were redder, and changed into Aurelia's.

On the 23d. of May they were of a dark red, and on the next day one of them was changed into a small Moth, leaving its uteless Skin, or Winter-coat. This Moth had white Wings with black specks; my Micro-scope discovered these Wings to be covered on both sides with Feathers, whereof some were tipt with black. The Moth had sour Wings, each Wing adorned with three rows of Feathers very long in proportion to the little Creature, and each row increasing in size above the other; every Feather was not round at the end, but indented Tooth-like. These Moths are represented Fig. 2. A. and the Skins they left. Fig. 3. P.Q. of the Natural size.

On the 25th. of May I put into several Tubes a Male and Female Moth, which might be known as funder from the Males being smaller; and after they had coupled, I opened some of the Females, and sound between Fifty

and Seventy Eggs in each.

On the 26th. I found in my fore-mentioned Tube fix Moths flying; on the 27th. I found one Moth had laid nigh Seventy Eggs, each of the fize of a small Sand, and of the shape of an Hens-Egg. The manner of laying their Eggs is by stretching out their hinder part, as Fig. 4. from A to B, then thrusting out the Part, BCD, and out of that the Part CDE, which Extremity is beset with several hairs, as at E is represented: This Part BCDE was several times put out and in, and

at last it brought sorth an Egg which being soft, was extended in its passing through the narrow passage, and the Ductus it self enlarged, as Fig. 5. GHI. I suppose that it places the Eggs by the means of this long slender lylember in the creases of the Grain, to secure them the better from external Injuries. Fig. 4. E. and 3. I. represents an Egg when 'tis laid and fixt down by a clammines it has when new laid: Soon after they had laid their Eggs the Moths dyed.

Those Eggs that were laid on the 26th. of May, by carrying in my Pocket next my Body in a Glass Tube, were by too much heat spoiled, the Worms that were in them being kill'd; wherefore I put them in a cooler Pocket, and on the third of June sound some of them hatcht, and the Worms creeping on the Glass. I caused one of these to be drawn, but not with all the Curiosity of its Parts, Fig. 6. K.L. The fore-part of this Worm was surnisht with fix Feet, as is represented Fig. 7. M.N. The true size of this Worm, when first hatcht, was of the length of the line in Fig. 8. which was double the Diameter of the Egg.

I gave them some Grains of Wheat, wherein they soon housed themselves: The shell of the Egg when the Worm is hatcht is drawn by a much more enlarging Mieroscope, Fig. 9. RSTV, whereon the Net-work of

the Vessels may be seen.

I have observed that of great numbers of Feathers scattered by the Moths they all appeared of a disserent shape and size, Fig. 10. AB. CD. EF. are three of the largest Feathers magnissed: At the broad end they were somewhat blackish, so that lying one over another, they made a black spot. The other Feathers, as Fig. 11. G. II. IK. L. M. were white and transparent; all these Feathers have their Quills, by which they are sastened into the Membranous Wings: Fig. 12. represents Ten distinct Feathers dissering in size and shape. Those on the

the edge of the Wing were longer than the others, and of a particular shape, Fig. 13. shews five of them.

Those Eggs which were laid about the 25th. of May, and were not kept warm, but laid in my Closet-window, were not hatcht till about the 10th. of June; so that the warmth of the Body hastens their hatching.

The Corn-Merchants observe them not till about August, though they are hatcht in about sixteen days after the Moth slies about, and are not perceived by reason of their smallness, and their hiding themselves in the first Grain of Corn that they cat into, and are not seen till they quit that for another.

These Worms are not only destructive to Corn, but are also in old Timber, Books, Boxes, Woollen Stuffs,

and the like.

This being so Destructive and Prolifique an Insect, for of Seventy Eggs I found but one Barren, and three with dead Worms, I thought of a way to destroy them, which is thus: I took a Glass Vessel, and put into it Eight Moths, and firing some Brimstone therein, they were foon kill'd by its fume: and three hours after putting some more Moths into the Vessel, the Scent that remained therein kill'd them; from hence gueffing at what might serve for a larger Room, I took for a Granary 24 Foot long, and 16 broad, 4 of a Pound of fuch Brimstone, prepared so as Wine-Coopers use to do for their Casks, which (fecuring it from danger of firing the Room) I placed in the midst of the Room, and fetting it on fire, left it, shutting the Door, and after two days I came again, and found some Moths alive on the Walls, but not a tenth of what used to be there, and which I judged might get into the Room through the broken Glass of the Window, or they might have crept out of the Aurelia after the Smoak was over: Wherefore the best way is to smoak the Room as soon as the Moth appears, and that for some days successively,

H h which

which is but a small charge. And in Autumn it would do well to sweep the Worms off the Walls, for being a tender Insect, they are easily kill'd.

At the time of the Wolfs creeping up the Walls I faw many small Animalcules of the fize of a great Sand upon the Walls also; they had their hinder part broad and short like a Louse, and four Horns, whereof two were almost as long as their whole Body, and the other two not above to final length. These Animalcules laid small Eggs, in shape almost of a Lemon: They were not long-lived, possibly for want of their proper Food, for some of them had eaten others for Hunger: These Eggs were hatcht in May, and the Young ones were of the same shape with their Parents, so that these Insects produce their like, as do Lice, Mites, Fleas, Sc.

In Rain-water I observed a small red Worm, and two other kinds of very minute Insects; of those of the larger size I judged that 30000 together would not equal a course Sand. These I observed for several days, and saw them copulate, the larger dragging the smaller through the Water after them, swimming by the means of very small Finns. I saw likewise another fort of smaller Insects in the Water coupled, twenty times more in number than the former.

As to Insects bred in Apples, I observe that in the Spring, when the Trees begin to bud, a certain black Fly lights on the Blossoms, and lays its Eggs there, (our Gardiners say, they come most with a North-wind) others say, they come out of the Sea: I took off from a Leaf an Egg laid there by what we call a Wittge; it was of the bigness of a course Sand, its shell after the Worm is out, is represented Fig. 14. GHMKL being the part whereat the Worm had made its way: Of this Shell all the Rib-like parts appeared hollow, and most likely are Vessels. This Insect slies from one Bud to another, and I doubt not but if we did observe these black

black Flies, and the Caterpillars which foon follow them, we should find that the Caterpillars generated by black

Flies, change to black Flies again.

About two Years fince I put some Cheese-Maggots in a Glass Tube in my Pocket, and at last sound the Maggot turned to a red Aurelia from pure white; and these again changed into a black Fly; which Experiment I oft renewed with the same success, though I could not keep these Flies till they laid Eggs, it may be for want of convenient Food.

From these and several other Observations, I conclude there is no Generation but from the Parent Animal.

A CATALOGUE of those Oyls that will take Fire with a great Noise and Explosion, when the Compound Spirit of Nitre is poured upon any of them, and of those Oyls that do only make a great Noise with Explosion, but will not take fire; and also of those that do not make either Effectuescence or Explosion. The first is marked with two Stars **. The second with one *. The last has no mark at all.

| Oyls, | Effential. |
|--|---|
| Vegetable. | Perfect Stillations made by the A- nalyfis of Chymical Fires, where the Oleaginous Particles are truly feparated from all other, |
| · · | Light, or Æthereal, which are fpecifically lighter than Water and Brandy, and some than Spirit of Wine, and are Thyme * |
| Tapy - Condition | usually drawn from the Seeds of Vegetables: Such as from Angelica * Hystop * Lavender * Tops of |
| Opposesses executive catalogs | commonly fink in Water, being diffilled from the heavy Parts either of the Wood or Cortex of Trees. Such as Rofemary * Peny-royal * Rue * Sage * |
| e de la companya de l | from Associated Savin. * Savin. * Lemons * Coranges * |
| | l feveral parts of the Plants. (Almonds) (Saffafras ** |
| | As of Olives Wallnuts Struits. S Line Rape Seeds. Hartshorn ** As of Olives Wallnuts Struits. Guajacum ** Box ** Camphire ** Jamaica Pepper ** Cinamon ** Cortex. |
| Animal of | Solid Parts (Man's Skull ** Hoofs ** Fluids, Humane Blood ** |
| Mineral of | Amber or Succinum. Petroleum. Barbados Tarr. Bees-Wax. |
| | Spirit of Wine will give some status of Fire. |

Balfam of Sulphur, a Compound Body made with Oyl of Turpentine and Brimftone, if not too thick, will flame.

Four You have Twelve forts of Oyls that do make Ebullition, Explosion, and Flame; Eighteen, Ebullition and Explosion without Flame; Four that produce neither; by the Mixture of our Compound Spirit of Nitre.

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